

P A T E N T

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: GENE DIPOTO et al. Confirmation No.: 1092

Serial No.: 10/693,815 Examiner: ANURADHA RAMANA

Filing Date: OCTOBER 24, 2003 Group Art Unit: 3733

Docket No.: 1291.1143101 Customer No.: 28075

Title: METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR STABILIZING THE SPINE  
THROUGH AN ACCESS DEVICE

**AMENDMENT**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**CERTIFICATE FOR ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that this paper(s) is being electronically transmitted to the U.S. Patent and  
Trademark Office on the date shown below



Thu H. Le-To

JULY 19, 2007

Date

Dear Sir:

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Official Action of the Examiner mailed January 19, 2007, setting a three-month shortened statutory period for response ending April 19, 2007. Applicant hereby requests a three-month extension of time, extending the period for response to July 19, 2007.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 9 of this paper.

Please consider this a PETITION FOR THREE-MONTH EXTENSION OF TIME to enter these papers. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0413.